AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (currently amended) A method implementable on an encoder for adjusting a coding threshold for encoding a block in an image, wherein the coding threshold determines whether the block should be coded, comprising:

encoding, at a first time, a first image representation of the block using first encoding parameters generated by the encoder;

encoding, at a second time later than the first time, a second image representation of the block using second encoding parameters generated by the encoder;

assessing at least the first and second encoding parameters to determine whether the image is likely stationary, wherein the first and second encoding parameters comprise at least first and second quantization parameters; and

if the image is likely stationary, adjusting the coding threshold in the encoder for at least a portion of the block.

2.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second image representations comprise a matrix of quantized discrete cosine transform coefficients.

3.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second encoding parameters respectively comprise at least first and second motion vectors.

4.   (original) The method of claim 3, wherein assessing to determine whether the image is likely stationary comprises determining whether the first and second motion vectors are substantially zero.

5.   (cancelled)

6.   (currently amended) The method of claim [[5]] 1, wherein assessing to determine whether the image is likely stationary comprises determining whether the first and second quantization parameters are respectively below first and second quantization parameter thresholds.

7–8.   (cancelled)

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein adjusting the coding threshold comprises adjusting the coding threshold to decrease the likelihood of encoding the block at the second time.

10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein adjusting the coding threshold comprises increasing the coding threshold.

11. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

    encoding, a third time prior to the first time, a third image representation of the block using third encoding parameters generated by the encoder; and

    assessing at least the first, second, and third encoding parameters to determine whether the image is likely stationary.

12. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second encoding parameters respectively comprise whether the first and second image representations of the block are intercoded, and wherein assessing the first and second encoding parameters comprises an assessment whether the first and second image representations of the block are intercoded.

13. (original) A method implementable on an encoder for adjusting a coding threshold for encoding a block in an image, wherein the coding threshold determines whether the block should be coded, comprising:

    encoding, at a first time, a first image representation of the block using at least a first quantization parameter and a first motion vector generated by the encoder;

    encoding, at a second time later than the first time, a second image representation of the block using at least a second quantization parameter and a second motion vector generated by the encoder; and

    adjusting the coding threshold in the encoder for at least a portion of the block if the first and second motion vectors are substantially zero and if the first and second quantization parameters are respectively less than first and second quantization parameter thresholds.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first and second image representations comprise a matrix of quantized discrete cosine transform coefficients.

15. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the first and second quantization parameter thresholds are the same.

16. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein adjusting the coding threshold comprises adjusting the coding threshold to decrease the likelihood of encoding the block at the second time.

17. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein adjusting the coding threshold comprises increasing the coding threshold.

18. (original) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

   encoding, a third time prior to the first time, a third image representation of the block using at least a third quantization parameter and a third motion vector generated by the encoder; and

   adjusting the coding threshold in the encoder for the block if the first, second, and third motion vectors are substantially zero and if the first, second, and third quantization parameters are respectively less than first, second, and third quantization parameter thresholds.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the first, second, and third quantization parameter thresholds are the same.

20. (original) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

   encoding, at the first time, the first image representation of the block using intercoding;

   encoding, at the second time, the second image representation of the block using intercoding; and

   adjusting the coding threshold in the encoder for at least a portion of the block if the first and second image representations are intercoded.

21.   (currently amended) A method implementable on a decoder capable of displaying a block of an image on a display, comprising:

  receiving from an encoder, at a first time, a first image representation of the block including first encoding parameters generated by the encoder;

  receiving from an encoder, at a second time later than the first time, a second image representation of the block including second encoding parameters generated by the encoder;

  assessing at the decoder whether the image is likely stationary using at least the first and second encoding parameters, wherein the first and second encoding parameters include at least first and second quantization parameters; and

  if the image is likely stationary, not updating at least a portion of the block on the display.

22.   (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the first and second image representations comprise a matrix of quantized discrete cosine transform coefficients.

23.   (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the first and second encoding parameters respectively comprise at least first and second motion vectors.

24.   (original) The method of claim 23, wherein assessing to determine whether the image is likely stationary comprises determining whether the first and second motion vectors are substantially zero.

25.   (cancelled)

26.   (original) The method of claim 2521, wherein assessing to determine whether the image is likely stationary comprises determining whether the first and second quantization parameters are respectively below first and second quantization parameter thresholds.

27–28. (cancelled)

29. (original) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

    receiving from the encoder, a third time prior to the first time, a third image representation of the block including third encoding parameters generated by the encoder; and

    assessing at least the first, second, and third encoding parameters to determine whether the image is likely stationary.

30. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the first and second encoding parameters respectively comprise whether the first and second image representations of the block are intercoded, and wherein assessing the first and second encoding parameters comprises an assessment whether the first and second image representations of the block are intercoded.

31. (currently amended) A method implementable on an encoder capable of transmitting image information to a decoder, comprising:

    encoding, at a first time, a first image representation of the block using first encoding parameters generated by the encoder;

    encoding, at a second time later than the first time, a second image representation of the block using second encoding parameters generated by the encoder;

    assessing at least the first and second encoding parameters to determine whether the image is likely stationary, wherein the first and second encoding parameters comprise at least first and second quantization parameters; and

    if the image is likely stationary, sending a no code signal to a decoder for at least a portion of the block.

32. (original) The method of claim 31, wherein the first and second image representations comprise a matrix of quantized discrete cosine transform coefficients.

33. (original) The method of claim 31, wherein the first and second encoding parameters respectively comprise at least first and second motion vectors.

34. (original) The method of claim 33, wherein assessing to determine whether the image is likely stationary comprises determining whether the first and second motion vectors are substantially zero.

35. (cancelled)

36. (currently amended) The method of claim 35 31, wherein assessing to determine whether the image is likely stationary comprises determining whether the first and second quantization parameters are respectively below first and second quantization parameter thresholds.

37–38. (cancelled)

39. (original) The method of claim 31, further comprising:
  encoding, a third time prior to the first time, a third image representation of the block using third encoding parameters generated by the encoder; and
  assessing at least the first, second, and third encoding parameters to determine whether the image is likely stationary.

40. (original) The method of claim 31, wherein the first and second encoding parameters respectively comprise whether the first and second image representations of the block are intercoded, and wherein assessing the first and second encoding parameters comprises an assessment whether the first and second image representations of the block are intercoded.